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THE
ARRAIGN-
MENT OF THE
MARQUES
d'Ancre.

TRANSLATED ACCORDING
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Concerning (C) Marques d'Ancre &c



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THE ARRAIGNMENT OF THE MARQUES *d'Ancre.*

*Si quoties peccant homines sua fulmina mittat
Iupiter, Exiguo tempore inermis erit.*

THe prerogative betweene Mercy and Iustice hath bin an ancient question in the iudiciall seate of God : Mercy claiming the right of eldership, hath still obtained (in the beginning) some interlocutorie sentence in fauour of her selfe : But the imputations, informations, reasons and contradictions, being exactly regarded and considered, Iustice (as being well established and protectrice of the world) doth obtaine a definitiue sentence of her side.

This iudgement hath bin confirmed by all the Iudges & Prophets mentioned in the holy

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ly Scripture, that God is replenished with mercy, but that in the end hee limiteth all with his Iustice. If wee require examples for to proue it, his chosen people and well beloued, children of *Abraham* will affoord vs a thousand proofes. I promise thee (said God to *Abraham*) that I will multiply thy seed aboue the starres of heauen, and that the number of thy progenie shall exceede the sand of the sea. A wonderfull blessing! God is faithfull in all his words, and neuer deceiueth any: notwithstanding that people, enriched with so many of the graces of God, forgetting themselues at euery moment, after so many rebellions and ingratitude, is in the end condemned by the Diuine Iustice, to the hard yoake and seruitude of *Ægypt*. A iust iudgement of God, which leaues nothing vnpunished. Within the same Countrey of *Ægypt*, and in the reuolution of the same yecres, *Pharaoh* did enioy the sweet influence of heauen; but abusing the presages of God, feeleth in the end his reuenging hand, and the stroke of his iust choler. It is an horrible thing to fall into the hands of the iust God!

Seianus, kindler of the Romane Commonwealth,

wealth, fatall destinie of all popularie dissensions, during the course of his life, did kindle in such sort the wrath of his Gods, that after many pardons and delayes, they were in the end forced to thunder out against him a iudgement worthie to his demerits, and by the last period of his dayes, to end forthwith all the miseries of the people. This mercy of God is great, which still giues vs a thousand delayes; but yet his iudgements are iust and hidden.

We had already enioyed twentie yeeres of golden age, when this infernall furie, this offspring of *Seianus*, generation of *Megere*, came to sprinkle our Countrey of France with the * *fncke* of all miseries. Alas poore France, thy flower-de-Luces are no longer white, they are all stained and discoloured, since this cruell *Pandora* hath poured vpon thee her box of so many woes! Shalt thou bee able then once more to take away thy spot? But yet bee not discouraged, our Kings are the eldest *Sonnes*, and cherished of God; and remember thou that their *Flower-de-luces* shal lift vp their head euen to the heauens, where they shall recover their first luster

* *fncke* signifies
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The Giants, generation of the earth, horrible monsters, not being contented to subiect to their tyrannicall minds, the people of the world, would also skale vp the heauens, and tumble downe *Iupiter* from his throne. The fable doth import, that *Ioue* calling the rest of the other Gods, and collecting the voices and suffrages, there was a relation made of so many impieties, that those detestable villaines were condemned to perish by *Iupiter* his thunder-bolt.

The earth had spued out through the rockes of *Toscane*, a twig of those ambitious Giants, who not finding wherewith to feede himselfe among the desarts of the pouertie of his house, is come to cast the seedes of his ambition in the field of our *France*: where tilling, and in the end ouer-abounding in so many wickednesses, hee hath attained to the height of so many crimes and impieties; that seeking to incroch vpon the annointed and holy ones of God, and wickedly to take hold on their estate, God, after so many delayes, hath set out his right arme of Iustice, & caused his sentence to be executed by the eldest son of his Church.

This.

This our time hath made to reuiue with vs the tragicall storie of the proud *Haman*, who after hauing receiued so many benefits from the liberall hand of *Abashuerus*, after hauing been honoured with the feasts and banquets of the faire *Hester*, hauing a generall commandouer all the Realmes of that magnificent Prince, holding (as it were) all the will of that Prince into his owne hands, and disposing of all according to his owne wishes, finally looseth himselfe most miserably within the gulph of ambition, and conspireth at once to the generall destruction of his people. Hee makes his proposition, and his aduices are receiued. *Mardocheus* is contended and condemned, the gibbet is erected, and nothing else expected by the head of one onely man, but the vniuersall losse of all. But (O good God) how great are thy iudgements! how highly are thy secrets placed: and how farre is the expectation of men from thine? they purpose, but thou disposest: they condemne, but thou reuokest their sentences: they pronounce, but thou executest otherwise. Wretched *Haman*, who had'st plotted the death of the iust *Mar-*

dochee, couldest thou not foresee, that thy ambition, thy pride, and thy excessiue arrogancie did spinne the halter, which now strangles thee most ignominiously? And that the gybet that thou haddest prepared, serueth as a Theater to crowne the fulnesse of thy misdeeds? O traiterous *Haman*, which hath so long fed thy selfe, but neuer satisfied with the goods of our France: to what height of greatnesse wast thou not mounted by her benefits, and liberalities of that great French *Abashuerus*, that bud of Diuinity, that offspring of one of the great heauenly Citizens? What fauours diddest thou not enioy noere that faire *Hester*? Dost thou not know, that from a poore beggerly *Conchini*, thou art become *Marquesse d'Ancre*, that hauing the inke, thou hast taken the pen in hand, with the which thou hast marked all our woes, and hast made them to bee sealed: holding in thy power the will of this bountifull Prince, which thou diddest compasse about, and hauing gotten such command ouer the Queene his mother, that by these meanes thou diddest enter vpon the absolute vsurpation of the whole estate, and hast
 so.

so well put in vre all thy plots, that thou diddest hold the effect of Regalitie, not wanting any thing but the Scepter, and the name of King, whereunto aspiring, for to attaine to it with more facility, thou hadst already made a number of outlawries; wheelles and gybbets were raised vp, the Catch-poles hired, and the summes counted, and number prefixed for euery head? But God by his diuine prouidence hath made the instrument to turne against thy hand; and the gallowes that thou diddest prepare, haue been the iust reward that thy infinite crimes and felonies did merit, which did not expect this last stroke of the diuine vengeance.

Mischieuious Abortiue, bewitched Firebrand of the woes of France. *Ignitis*, which did containe the fire burning and deuouring the bowels of France: fixe yeeres are past, that thou diddest fill it with miseries, that thou madest it tributarie to all cruelties. Thy tyranny had already dissipated the most flourishing State of the world; and when thou diddest thinke to adde thy crowne of iniquitie to the rest of thy enterprises, Oh incomprehensible secrets!

(*Manet altâmente repostum—iudicium Paridis*),
 Oh iust iudgement of God! who at one time
 hath dissolued thy Counsels, ouerthrowne
 thy mischieuous designs, and pronounced a-
 gainst thy selfe the sentence of death, follow-
 ed with the rewards of thy wickednesse.

Goe then wretch, and neuer come againe
 to trouble our quiet rest.

Sanciat hac Iupiter qui fœdera fulmine sancit.

FINIS.



